



Arlington Tree Committee

Date: Wednesday, *March 13, 2019*

Time: 7:30pm

Location: *Lyons Hearing Room, Arlington Town Hall*

Attending: Brian Turnbaugh, Eliza Burden, Mara Vatz, Mary Ellen Aronow, Keith Schnebly, Phil Tedesco, Brian Turnbaugh, Ed Trembly, Susan Stamps, Tim Lecuivre

Visitors: Beth Melofchik, David Stern

Minutes

1. *Approve February Meeting Minutes.*

2. *DPW Tree Dept/Tree Warden Update*

- Tree hearing(s) none
- Resident on Brantwood called with concerns about possible development at 17 Brantwood
- 15 Kensington – Tree plan was submitted. Home has been razed and 2 trees removed
- 18 Harvard – Contractor Nelson Olivier removed trees; he claimed he didn't know about the bylaw. Contractor paid \$500 per tree (total of \$3500) for the removal of the trees. Asst Town Manager Jim Feeney and Town Counsel will determine what the fines will be (given the \$300 per day penalty). **ACTION: Steve Moore will follow up with Jim Feeney**
- Tree Bylaw activity; warrant; Select Board Mtg 2/25
- Arbor Day plans. Planned planting at Hardy.
- Pruning cycle underway. No more standing dead trees remain. High priority trees are now being addressed. Request was made to first take down ash trees in poor condition
- Recommended that we discuss a strategy for ash tree treatment in April
- Two Norway maple trees fell in recent storms: Bartlett, and 63 Stowecroft Rd. Diseased tree at 80 Webcowet also was removed
- Susan brought up the issue of tree care in future projects

3. *Community Tree Canopy Program Spring 2019 (Mary Ellen)*

- a. Nursery Choice.
- b. Subcommittee by email (Keith, MEA, John and Brian)
- c. Mike R has approved the funds for a program for 30 trees. Funds will come from Trees Please fund. Species: Redbud, Tulip and Red Oak.
- d. Susan asked what the balance of Trees Please fund. **Susan will look into**
- e. Publicity timeline, member volunteers.
- f. Forward materials to businesses (discussions with Mirak)

g. **Eliza to forward draft flyer to MEA**

4. *Publicity/Community Outreach*

- a. Meet with AHS Rebuild Committee Feb 25 (Eliza). She focused on making two points:
 - Careful protection of existing trees
 - Advocating for additional trees even if there is not sufficient funding for trees in the current budget. ATC could find funds (Trees please or a grant) later as long as we plan for them now.
- b. Attend zoning meetings with ARB re: multifamily zoning. Steve, Phil, Eliza, Susan and Keith attended and advocated for trees along our main corridors.
- c. Good Neighbor Agreement; Residential Zoning Study Group (RSG). No update. Susan had requested to the group that we see the writing before we have a vote
- d. Service project with New Covenant School (Keith/Mara). Kids will help with projects for the library table. Poster and finding kids books re: trees. And making a video for gator bags; possibly some research on EAB. Tim planning on planting 6 trees on Westminster. Arch doodle coloring books showing blank streetscapes could be a good way of including kids in planning for trees in Arlington.
- e. Fox Library: "*What's Up in Arlington?*" presentation; tree mgmt. April 3.
- f. Robbins Library – table display in April (Mara/Keith). Working with New Covenant Students.
- g. Patriots Day Parade (New Covenant students to march in Parade?); Chairful Where you Sit (tree-themed chair?); Feast of the East (booth?)
- h. Eco-week – weeklong event Apr 22-28.
- i. Possible Article -- Success of 2017 Community Canopy Program
- j. ATC Google Groups – new administrative manager. Phil offered.

5. *Updates on Old Business*

- Bylaw Update
- Emerald Ash Borer – next meeting
- Gas Leaks – Susan and Tim meet every month with Task Force. Town now has a Gas leak detector that will be used this spring.
- Procedures regarding trees during town projects and tree watering
- Tree Construction guidelines

6. *New Business*

- Need to discuss ash tree strategy next month

Meeting adjourned at 9:28pm

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 10.